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June 29, 2009

**Delaware Department of Justice Statement
Allison Lamont Norman penalty hearing**

On June 16, 2009, the Delaware Supreme Court issued a ruling that upheld the June, 2007 murder conviction of Allison Lamont Norman but overturned his death sentence and ordered a new penalty hearing in the case. The State has carefully reviewed the Supreme Court's ruling and consulted with the families of the two homicide victims. We anticipate that following the procedures set forth in the Supreme Court's opinion would likely result in a sentence of life in prison. We have decided that we are not going to force those families and the many other victims to relive the events of the defendant's criminal rampage. Therefore, we will not be retrying the penalty phase hearing.

We expect that the Superior Court will soon schedule a hearing to sentence the defendant to life in prison without the possibility of parole on the Murder 1st Degree charge.

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